

Ohio Beetles Bulletin

Occasional Publication of the Ohio Coleopterists

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Pityophagus cephalotes LeConte
Family: Nitidulidae

The Ohio Beetles Bulletin (OBB) was developed to provide the Ohio Coleopterists membership a means of communication in conjunction with the Ohio Coleopterists Newsletter. It is hoped the OBB will provide an informative and enjoyable means of sharing information on the fascinating world of Beetles.

“When we have experienced the atavistic joy of collecting in the open air and the manipulative pleasure of setting and mounting our chosen beetles there follows the refined intellectual delight of naming them with precision”.

Quote by G.B. Walsh taken from the first edition of the Coleopterists Handbook. W.J.B. Crotch, General Editor London, December 1953.

Cover Photo: Rarely collected specimen of ***Pityophagus cephalotes*** LeConte, of the Family: Nitidulidae (6.0 mm)
Vinton County, Ohio. Lindgren Funnel Trap 11-26 June-2011. Ken Karns specimen and photo

OHIO COLEOPTERISTS

March 15, 2014 General Meeting
Delaware Forestry Building, Delaware, Ohio

Members of the Ohio Coleopterists met at the Delaware Forestry building in Delaware, Ohio on Saturday March 15, 2014. Focus of this meeting was to work on beetle determinations on specimens from various survey collections that the Ohio Coleopterists have been involved with. Much was accomplished and the Cerambycidae got a big boost in good identifications with the visit of Ohio Coleopterist member Bob Androw from the Carnegie Museum in Pittsburg. Bob was one of the co-founders of the Ohio Coleopterists, and specializes in the Cerambycidae and Scarabaeoidea. Thanks for your efforts with the collections Bob and it was great to see you!

The following photos courtesy of Ohio Coleopterist member and club photographer Scott Hogsten.



Despite how it appears, the OC members worked diligently identifying beetles from the numerous survey collections that are surrounding the hard working crew.....geesh! get to work!

Top photo L toR, George Keeney, Bob Androw, Ken Karns, Cheryl Early, Charles Triplehorn, Dave Horn, Dick Maxey.



Senior OC Members Dr. Triplehorn (ball cap) and Dr. Horn actively discuss some critical issues with Cheryl Early and Dick Maxey looking on...



Legendary and renowned Tenebrionidae worker and educator, Dr. Charles A. Triplehorn looking on with Dick Maxey. So nice to see “Chuck” looking so vibrant for his Octogenarian status and has been a staunch Ohio Coleopterist Society supporter since its inception.



Family: Nitidulidae

Psilopyga histrina LeConte

Variant or different species?

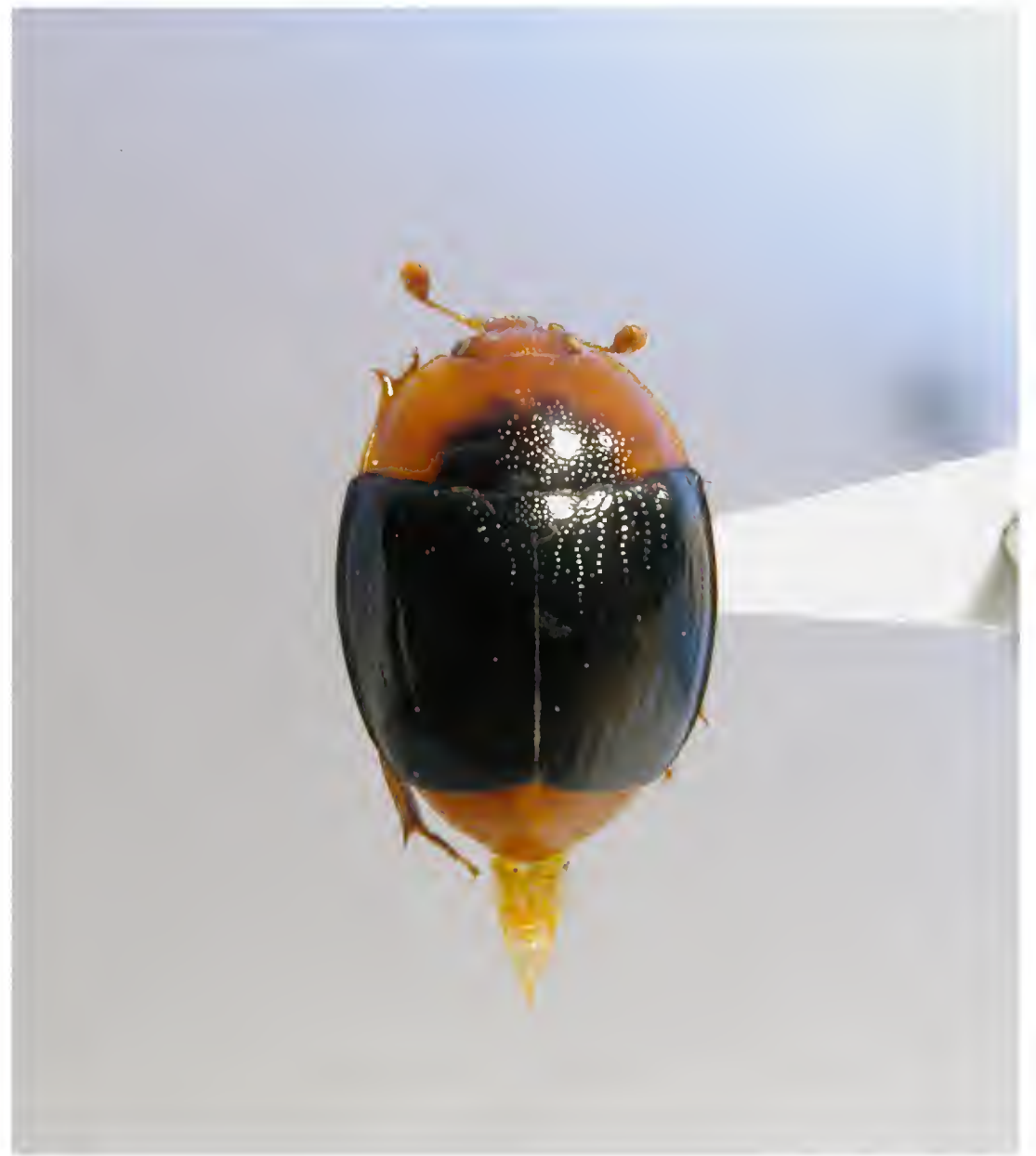


(figure 1).

Psilopyga histrina LeConte (7.0 mm)

12-19 July-2013. Vinton County, OH.

Flight Intercept Trap. K.Karns specimen & photo



(figure 2.)

Psilopyga sp.* ? variant of *P. histrina (6.0 mm)

30-June to 07-July 2012. Vinton County, OH.

Flight Intercept Trap. K.Karns specimen & photo

Based on Parsons description in his 1943 Revision of Nearctic Nitidulidae (Coleoptera), the all black specimen in figure 1. is *Psilopyga histrina* LeConte. This species matches the description and is one of only two species found in northeastern North America. The bi-colored specimen in figure 2 agrees with the description of *P. nigripennis* LeConte in most respects except for the basal dark pronotal spot. This feature agrees with Parson's description of a variant to *P. histrina* "Yellow with black elytra, and a black, rectangular, basal, pronotal spot". I'm leaning towards the specimen in figure 2 being conspecific with and a mere variant of *P. histrina* LeConte.

When more specimens become available for study a clearer picture of these two interesting Nitidulids may come to light. Both species have been reported on the stinkhorn fungus *Phallus impudicus*.

Ohio Coleopterist Society

Spring Field Trip

12-April-2014

Karns Cabin Property and Zaleski State Forest

The Ohio Coleopterists will kick off the 2014 collecting season with a trip to Vinton County and the Zaleski State Forest area. Base camp for operations will be the Karns cabin property located 8 miles from Lake Hope and bordering Zaleski State Forest. Weather seems to be an issue this year and it's anyone's guess what the weekend of the 12th will look like. Collecting this time of year tends to "separate the men from the boys" as they say!

When: Saturday, April 12th. Depending on how the attendance pans out anyone interested in coming down Friday night and staying over is welcome or an overnight stay from Saturday to Sunday is doable as well.

Where: Karns Cabin Property
72660 Gambill Hollow Road
Albany, Ohio. 45710

Contact: Ken Karns
Species@columbus.rr.com
740-653-7510 Cell: 740-215-4305



Particulars: Our cabin is an "off the grid" style which means no plumbing or electric. Now hold on!....there is an amazingly efficient composting indoor toilet, water is provided through a 5 gallon container with spigot and sink, propane heat and stove, and electric is provided with a portable generator. Beverages drink remarkably well from the covered outside deck!

Please RSVP at contact listed above if you plan to attend.....